



The Fire Service News



New Hampshire Fire Academy



January – March 2002

Volume XXI – Number 1

A Service of New Hampshire Division of Fire Standards & Training

“Training on the Leading Edge”

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Dear New Hampshire Fire Service,

Well it is hard to believe that the holiday season came and is now history. We are making the necessary plans to make the year 2002 more prosperous than the past. We sincerely hope that all ended 2001 safely and with minimal losses in our communities.

Things are going very fast in the Division of Fire Standards and Training:

- 1) We are hiring the necessary personnel to fulfill the obligations made during the passage of House Bill 303 that gave fire training a dedicated funding source. As of the date of this writing, we have hired Lorena Case to handle our reception area since the promotion of Wanda Botticello to District Secretary. We have also added two additional District Secretary positions that are being filled by Linda Spinelli and Kelly Teeter, both who have worked for the Department of Safety.
- 2) We have started to offer training around the State, also fulfilling our obligations to the New Hampshire Fire service. One interesting course will be in Rockingham County where we have contracted with the Interstate Emergency Unit through the efforts of discussions between Lieutenant Robert Irish and me. They will offer a Firefighter I in the Spring and will have subsidies from our agency. We are confident that this will work so we can use this model in other portions of the State.
- 3) Our newly “revamped” Hazardous Materials curriculum has recently been granted accreditation by the Pro-Board, so this program is now added to the cadre of accredited programs offered.
- 4) Lastly, for this issue we are changing the method that we offer accreditation. Effective April 2002, we will be affixing a Pro-Board sticker on the New Hampshire certificate that will be the official accreditation. Now you must apply for accreditation at a fee of \$10.

Well, on behalf of all the employees and staff of the Division of Fire Standards and Training, we hope for a happy and safe 2002!

Sincerely,

Rick Mason

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1st Weds. of each month (except July-August)	NH Fire Standards & Training Commission Meeting, 9:30 a.m.	NHFA
2nd Thurs. of each month	Tests/Retests; sittings at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; preregistration required by 1st of month	NHFA
3rd Weds. of each month	Train-the-Trainers (watch for listings)	NHFA

FIRE INSTRUCTOR PROGRAMS:

Mon. & Weds. Evenings, 02/12 – 04/07	Fire Service Instructor I	NHFA
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FIRE OFFICER PROGRAMS:

Mon. & Weds. Evenings, 01/14 – 05/22	Fire Officer I & II	Bedford
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FIREFIGHTER PROGRAMS:

Mon. & Weds. Evenings, 03/04 – 05/20	Firefighter II	NHFA
Tues. & Thurs. Evenings, 03/05 – 08/06	Firefighter I	NHFA
Mon. – Fri., 03/25 – 06/09	Recruit School:	NHFA
03/25 – 05/02	Firefighter I	
05/06 – 05/24	Firefighter II	
05/27 – 06/09	Certified Career	

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROGRAMS: Watch for future listings

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING:

Mon., 01/07	Hazardous Materials Awareness	NHFA
Tues., 01/08	Responding to the Terrorist Threat—An Introduction	NHFA
Mon., 02/04	Hazardous Materials Awareness	NHFA
Tues., 02/05	Responding to the Terrorist Threat—An Introduction	NHFA
Mon., 02/25	Hazardous Materials Awareness	NHFA
Tues., 02/26	Responding to the Terrorist Threat—An Introduction	NHFA

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY PROGRAMS: Watch for future listings

SPECIALTY PROGRAMS:

To Be Announced	NAPD Driver Operator All Vehicles	NHFA
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TERRORISM PROGRAMS:

Mon.-Thurs., 01/14 – 01/17	Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts Barnstead	
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TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAMS: Watch for future listings

3rd Wednesday of each month		NHFA
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9-11 HELMET STICKERS

The Dover, NH Professional Firefighters, Local 1312, is currently selling 9-11 commemorative reflective helmet stickers to raise money to donate to charity and help out with the relief effort in New York. These stickers are made of a heavy-duty, red reflective Scotchlite material. The design is commemorative of the date (9-11) and resembles the Pentagon in the "9" and the World Trade Towers in the "11." If you have any interest in purchasing a sticker for your helmet or vehicle, please feel free to place an order by email or by telephone.

Please feel free to print off this information to distribute or post. Group orders or department-wide orders would be greatly appreciated and should help speed up the processing of your requests. Thank you!



9-11 Pentagon and WTC Reflective Commemorative Stickers

Proceeds benefit victims of the September 11 tragedy.

For more information, please contact the:

Dover Professional Firefighters Local 1312, PO Box 1004, Dover, NH 03820

Telephone: (603) 231-1495 • E-Mail to: IAFFLocal1312@mediaone.net

Cost is \$5.00 per sticker with \$1.00 for postage • Make checks payable to: Local 1312

These stickers are a Scotchlite heavy-duty reflective material. When adhering the stickers, carefully remove the solid white backing first, firmly place the decal on a clean surface, and then slowly remove the semi-transparent strip on top. Use care when adhering the decal as all the pieces are cut separately.

Sticker colors come in Red or Blue.

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

Chief Les A. Cartier, Commission Member

I am continuing to gather information on Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) as mentioned in my article in the October-November-December 2001 FIRE SERVICE NEWS.

For those who did not read that article, this is the background: Part of the proposed NFPA 1720 Standard would require every fire department, paid and volunteer, to operate under Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs). While several departments have existing SOGs, a majority of the volunteer departments do not. This is usually due to the extensive time commitment needed in the development phase. Whether this Standard is adopted or not, SOGs are a prudent way to run a department.

The staff at the NH Fire Academy and I would like to facilitate this ominous task for departments that need to adopt SOGs. To accomplish this goal, the Fire Academy would like departments with SOGs to send copies to the Academy. In turn, the Academy will set up a resource library for other departments to draw formats and ideas from that will work in their departments. The Academy is also looking for individuals who could review and/or assist departments with the development of their SOGs.

With everyone's cooperation, the safety of all emergency personnel and the communities they serve will improve. If you can help, please send a copy of your SOGs to:

NH Department of Safety
Division of Fire Standards & Training
Attention: SOGs
10 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03305

If you are interested in helping others with the development of the Guidelines, please forward your name and information to me, Commission Member Les Cartier, at the above address or e-mail the information to CHIEFCARTIER@mediaone.net.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this effort.

2001 ANNUAL NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM

The New Hampshire Fire Service Committee of Merit announces its Annual New Hampshire Fire Service Awards Program, and again requests the support of all fire service personnel in recognizing outstanding acts of courage by career, call and volunteer fire service personnel of New Hampshire.

This program was initiated in 1986, after the death of Concord Dispatcher Paul Sypek. In his estate, Paul left the original funding and designated a committee to carry out the plan for this recognition. The first annual award ceremony was held in 1987 and, since then, many New Hampshire fire service personnel have been given awards for their heroic actions.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT NOW!

There are many fire service personnel throughout the State who have performed courageous acts which should be recognized. Any events occurring between January 1, 2001 and December 31, 2001 are eligible at this time for presentation at our next awards ceremony in October, 2002.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

1. A typed letter on proper organization letterhead from (a) Chief of Fire Department of designee; (b) head of a recognized fire service organization or union; (c) Town or City Manager, Mayor, Selectman, etc. The letter is to describe the action and circumstances leading to the action. It must be a detailed report of what happened, including the type of emergency, time of day, date, and a description of conditions which made the event hazardous, dangerous or unusual.
2. Nominee(s)' name, mailing address, home and work telephone, fire department or organization, and rank must be included in the letter.
3. All paid, call, and volunteer firefighters or emergency service personnel are eligible; also, awards may be made posthumously.
4. Include any pertinent newspaper clippings, photographs, or videos, as well as a listing of any other awards the nominee(s) received.

Deadline: Must be postmarked no later than January 31, 2002

Mail to: NH Fire Service Committee of Merit
Stacey DeVol, Secretary
10 Hazen Drive, Concord NH 03305

Any Questions: Contact Rick Mason at 1-800-371-4503 or 271-2661

BACKYARD TRASH BURNING FACT SHEET

As many of you are aware, on July 16, 2001 a new statute (RSA 125-N) was signed into New Hampshire law that will prohibit the "residential burning of combustible domestic waste." This ban on "backyard trash burning" takes effect January 1, 2003. The law gives the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) primary responsibility for enforcing the ban, and requires DES, in cooperation with the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED), to educate and notify the public regarding the ban.

As a first step in the public notification process, DES has prepared a fact sheet, "What You Should Know about Backyard Trash Burning - A Guide for New Hampshire Homeowners." This fact sheet (provided on the next sheet) will be made available to the state's Forest Fire Wardens as a hand out to those residents applying for burn barrel permits this year. Its purpose is to explain the ban, and give those who currently use burn barrels ample time to make other arrangements for trash disposal before the ban takes effect. Since DES will be primarily responsible for enforcement of the ban, telephone and pager numbers of DES enforcement personnel will be provided to the Forest Fire Wardens should there be any enforcement issues or questions. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding this issue, please call Rick Rumba, DES Air Toxics Program Manager at (603) 271-1987.

What You Should Know About Backyard Trash Burning

A Guide for New Hampshire Homeowners

New Hampshire law now prohibits backyard trash burning!

NH law (RSA 125-N) now prohibits the “residential open burning of combustible domestic waste”. This ban on “backyard trash burning” is effective January 1, 2003.



What is “combustible domestic waste”?

NH law defines combustible domestic waste as, “combustible waste such as, but not limited to, household trash, packaging materials, plastics, coated or laminated papers, rubber, painted or treated wood, coated or treated cardboard, oily rags, and animal, vegetable, and kitchen waste.”

What materials are excluded from the ban?

The ban does not include the outdoor burning of clean wood, leaves or brush generated by New Hampshire residents. Nor does it include the burning of clean paper to start campfires, etc. However, these materials can only be burned in accordance with the requirements of the Woodland Fire Control Act (RSA 227-L) after obtaining a permit from your local fire warden.

Why has NH banned backyard trash burning?

- * Many highly toxic chemicals, including dioxin, are released into the air when trash is burned. Today’s trash contains inks, dyes, chlorine, plastics, toxic metals and a variety of synthetic materials that can produce these toxins when burned, especially at the poor combustion, low temperatures and lack of oxygen typically present in backyard burn barrels.
- * Smoke from burn barrels stays close to the ground. As a result, the toxic emissions stay “close to home”, affecting your own family and neighbors-especially children-the most.
- * Backyard trash burning generates smoke and odors that often create a nuisance.
- * Backyard trash burning can be a fire hazard.

What are the penalties for violating the ban?

Penalties for violating the ban range from a simple warning with an explanation of the ban, to fines ranging from up to \$100 for the first offense to \$250 for subsequent offenses. The NH Dept. of Environmental Services (DES) has the authority to enforce the ban.

How should I dispose of my household trash?

All NH towns are required to provide approved methods of trash disposal for their residents, making backyard trash burning an unnecessary practice. You can reduce the amount of trash that must be disposed of by:

- * Recycling paper, glass, plastics, aluminum, used motor oil, and other materials at your town transfer station or recycling center (call your town office to find out more about recycling opportunities available in your area).
- * Creating and using a compost pile for organic material including leaves, grass clippings and vegetable scraps. Compost makes an excellent mulch and natural fertilizer for gardens.
- * Purchasing food and other items with less packaging or in bulk to avoid unnecessary waste.

If you have questions about backyard trash burning or your trash disposal options, call DES at (603) 271-2975 (Public Information Office), or (800) 498-6868 (Air Resources Division).



Partner Retiring After 11 Years of Faithful Service

Investigator John Southwell of the State Fire Marshal's Office has partnered for the past 11 years with Murphy, New Hampshire's first canine trained and certified in accelerant detection. Murphy has retired at the age of 12.

Murphy, a female Black Labrador retriever, came upon her 11-year occupation after being picked up on the streets of Greenland, New Hampshire, in the Spring of 1990. After being introduced to Investigator Southwell's family that Spring, Murphy and Investigator Southwell traveled to Alfred, Maine for a five-week training program. The program taught Murphy and Investigator Southwell to work as a team when processing a fire scene. Investigator Southwell's job was to guide her and keep her safe within the burned out buildings. Murphy in turn had the job of detecting, if any, the presence of petroleum products.

During her career, Murphy has had the pleasure of visiting most New Hampshire cities and towns. Not all of her visits were fire scenes though; she has been a guest speaker at schools, firehouses, and conventions and for numerous organizations. Two of her most memorable engagements were a "Table Lodge," set out in the pines of northern New Hampshire and as a dinner guest for the New England Mystery Writers Association.

Murphy has been and is still a great partner and fabulous family pet. Her retirement years will be spent swimming in the lakes and rivers of New Hampshire, playing in the snow of winter and chasing the wily red squirrel along the stone wall. At day's end you can find her curled up by the fireplace.

Murphy's last job is the introduction of someone she has been helping to raise for the last three years, teaching her how to answer the phone, bark at anyone placing something on the State car, and how really to act in the office. This individual would be Jade, a three-year old black female Labrador retriever.

Jade joined the Southwell family at the age of eight weeks. Investigator Southwell's daughter, Ashley, took on the responsibility of raising and training her during those early years. Murphy taught Jade how to ride in the car and beg at the bank drive-through window for dog bones.

Jade officially joined the State Fire Marshal's Office on September 7, 2001. Her training and certification was provided through the Maine State Police canine program.

Under the training of retired Maine State Trooper, Paul Gallagher, Jade and Investigator Southwell trained as a team. Training consisted not only of accelerant detection but also of confidence building through work on an obstacle course, and lectures on emergency care, legal issues and forensic laboratory issues.

Thank you, Murphy, for your many years of devoted service to the citizens of New Hampshire, and welcome aboard to Jade.

1-800-FIRE LINE

THE NATIONAL RECRUITMENT LINE FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEERS

**1-800-FIRE LINE (1-800-347-3546-3)
is now up and running at the Fire Academy.**

This is how it works: A potential volunteer dials 1-800-fire line (#) and gets the Fire Academy (Stacey). She in turn gives this person the name and number of the nearest Fire Department and Representative who will then give the necessary information to that potential volunteer in order to pursue his/her request.

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST - AND EXPLANATION

The IAFF and ICHIEFS have teamed up with ten of North America's leading fire departments and unions through the Fire Service Joint Labor Management Wellness/Fitness Initiative to develop the IAFF/ICHIEFS Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT). The participating departments on the Task Force are:

- * Austin, TX / IAFF Local 975
- * Los Angeles County, CA / IAFF Local 1014
- * Calgary, ALB / IAFF Local 255
- * Metro Dade County, FL / IAFF Local 1403
- * Charlotte, NC / IAFF Local 660
- * New York City, NY / IAFF Local 94/854
- * Fairfax County, VA / IAFF Local 2068
- * Phoenix, AZ / IAFF Local 493
- * Indianapolis, IN / IAFF Local 416
- * Seattle, WA / IAFF Local 27

The Task Force successfully developed the Fire Service Joint Labor-Management Wellness-Fitness Initiative in 1997 to address the need for a holistic and non-punitive approach to wellness and fitness in the fire service. The Task Force then discovered that municipalities were hiring people who would not be physically capable of a successful career in the fire service. The Task Force, therefore, unanimously agreed to develop a physical ability test for pre-employment testing of candidates. The Task Force has developed and validated the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT), resulting in a consistent test for hiring of candidate firefighters.

Developing the CPAT

The Task Force directed the Technical Committee to develop a performance test for the ten jurisdictions that measures the critical skills of firefighter candidates. Committee members reviewed six of the ten jurisdictions' job analysis and job task surveys. They also reviewed each of the ten jurisdictions' current candidate performance tests and job descriptions.

Additionally, a complete equipment and demographics survey was also completed by the ten jurisdictions. The equipment survey provided types and weights of all firefighter protective clothing, protective equipment, fire department equipment and fire department tools. It also assessed the average weight of firefighters in each jurisdiction as well as the average weight of emergency room and hospital-admitted patients. Demographic profiles of each jurisdiction were also developed. Using the data collected, the Committee then derived a list of 31 tasks to investigate. They developed survey questions directly re-

lated to these 31 tasks. The critical and physical task skills that all firefighters should possess were validated (through questionnaires) by 1,000 firefighters from the ten departments. Selection of the 1,000 firefighters was random and anonymous, but consistent with the race and gender diversity of the specific department. The completed results of the surveys resulted in the development of a series of physical ability tests that were selected based on the results of the data indicating the physicality and criticality of the tasks performed by firefighters.

Props for each event were built and modified to obtain the necessary information regarding candidate's ability. The props were then placed in a sequence that would best simulate their use in a fire scene. The Technical Committee chose to move the candidates along a predetermined path from event to event in a continuous manner requiring a mandatory walk between events.

Because of the test set up, individual event times would be an ineffective measure of a candidate's ability, so an overall test time needs to be established. Numerous individuals were run through the test including technical staff members, incumbent firefighters, lay people and a recruit class.

The overall consensus found the test to be a good predictor of an applicant's ability to perform basic fire fighting tasks. The Technical Committee was confident that the ability test would provide the fire service with a physically competent recruit. There was also unanimous agreement that the test equaled or was superior to current tests run by each of the ten jurisdictions.

These tests were filmed at different speeds and presented to supervisors in the ten jurisdictions (captains and battalion chiefs with experience in firefighter training). At the completion of this process, an entry test was finalized and presented to the Task Force for adoption. The Task Force unanimously adopted the full Candidate Physical Ability Test with a pass/fail time of 10 minutes and 20 seconds. The test may only be administered on a pass/fail basis; municipalities may not rank candidates based upon CPAT completion times.

Administering the CPAT

In developing the CPAT Program, the Task Force recognized that the fire department should reflect the community it serves. In today's society, communities are increasingly diverse and firefighters are continually challenged to operate in multi-cultural environments. The goal of the CPAT is to test for those individuals physically qualified to perform the job of firefighter without separating from the department's broader goal of attaining a properly trained

Text taken from the IAFF Web Site: IAFF.org

Susan Beaudoin, Sec./Treas., FIOANH, 19 Brimstone Hill Road, Epsom, NH 03234 • Beaudoin@metrocast.net



NH FOREST FIRE SERVICES

News & Notes



Remember . . . Safety First . . . On Every Incident . . . Every Time!

The Division and the Bureau want to thank all the tower people who were able to “extend” their availability to help cover the State for almost one month after the planned closing date of October 31, 2001. Also, thanks to AP 1 and 2 who helped to fill in the voids in the tower coverage. Also, a thanks to all of our Forest Rangers, mobile patrol, tower personnel and Air Patrols for their dedicated service throughout the past fire season.

As of November 21, 2001, we had 942 fires reported to our office for 426.4 acres burned. Lightning caused 24 of these fires that burned 9.6 acres.

A BIG thank you to all fire departments and firefighters who did an outstanding job of responding to wildland fires throughout the year. Due to your quick, professional response to these fires, the acres burned are well below average, and we had very few people injured on these fire incidents.

We had a great response from the fire departments applying for the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) grant monies. We received approximately 80 requests for the roughly \$26,000.00 available from the US Forest Service. The communities that receive the grant dollars will match these monies on a 50/50 basis. The VFA committee meets on Thursday, December 6, 2001 to discuss the grant applications and distribute the funds. The communities will be notified of the status of their grant request as soon as possible after the December 6 meeting.

We will hopefully have our new Forest Ranger “on board” early in January 2002. We will be advertising for the second Forest Ranger position, hopefully, early in July 2002. Again, our thanks to all the people who supported the legislation that allowed the Division to get the new positions and funding to continue to try to better serve the people of New Hampshire.

We have printed and have started distributing the “new” fire permits, where we have deleted the box for incinerators (the “old” fire permits are still legal to use, and should be). Fire permits may still be issued for the burning of clean combustible domestic waste; use the “other” box and specify what is to be burned. The “new” law regarding the burning of combustible domestic waste does NOT go into effect until January 1, 2003. We are working with Department of Environmental Services on informational brochures to explain the “new” law; and we hope to have DES print and distribute the brochures early in 2002. The Fire Service will be receiving information on the “new” law from DES and the Division of F&L so we are all singing from the same sheet of music.

Keep an eye on the legislative calendar and attend your fire service meetings. In 2002 there is legislation introduced (House Bill 1339) that proposes to change how the Forest Fire Warden is appointed (proposal to change from Selectmen recommends Warden to Fire Chief recommends). Is there a need to change the system? What will make the Warden/Deputy Warden system better? Get your comments/ideas to Chief Nelson and/or your local Forest Ranger.

We have switched our radio over to digital for the winter months; so, if you have not, you will want to take us out of your scan bank until the Spring fire season begins.

We sent two fire crews out of State this past year and we appreciate all those who made themselves available for these assignments. We encourage all interested people to get trained and pass the physical fitness exam in 2002 so that New Hampshire can continue to participate in this national mutual aid agreement and get some on the job training for “our” firefighters in large incidents, without having the large incidents here.

From the Ranger staff and me, we hope you all have a Happy and Safe Holiday!

FIRST RESPONDER BIOLOGICAL/CHEMICAL MAIL THREAT GUIDELINES

In cooperation with the NH Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community and Public Health, the NH Department of Environmental Services, Special Investigations Section and the NH Department of Safety, Division of State Police, the following guidelines are provided to assist you in determining the appropriate level of response to a possible biological or chemical mail threat incident. These guidelines are intended for use by first responders to handle incidents such as mail or packages with a suspicious powder or leaking some type of liquid, or other types of suspicious packages. These guidelines are not intended to anticipate every type of incident, and local jurisdictions are encouraged to develop their own guidelines and procedures.

1. Upon receipt of a call for assistance, it is recommended that the attached "Suspicious Mail Communication Center Protocol" or similar guideline be utilized.
2. Evacuate the immediate area. The room, office, floor or building should be evacuated while a threat assessment and incident size-up are completed.
3. Decontaminate individual(s) who have been directly exposed. In most cases, individuals who have come into contact with the suspect material should simply wash their hands thoroughly with soap and warm water. Contaminated clothes should be removed, triple-bagged, and staged in a secure area pending analytical reports. If positive for biological agents, dispose of as an infectious waste. If chemical contamination is present, dispose of as a hazardous waste. If negative for both, clean and re-use or dispose of as solid waste.
4. Conduct a threat assessment. In conjunction with your law enforcement agency, the situation should be assessed to ascertain whether a threat actually exists. A threat assessment is a critical step in determining the level of response to an incident. The threat assessment can include the following:
 - * Is the sender of the package or letter known to the recipient? Has the sender been contacted? What was sent? Can the suspicious material (powder, residue, leaking liquid) be explained?
 - * Has the recipient of the package or letter received any prior threats? How and when were they received? What was the threat?
 - * Are there any problems that could be related to the sending of a problem package, such as a disgruntled or discharged employee, irate customer, labor dispute, domestic dispute, restraining order, etc.?
- * Do not assume that the threat is anthrax. The assessment should consider the possibility of some other type of biological agent, chemical, radiological or explosive device.
5. Utilize the resources of your regional hazardous materials response team or your department's hazardous materials technicians. All regional teams are thoroughly familiar with the steps and procedures that should be followed. If you do not have any hazardous materials technicians or are not covered by a hazmat team, see item 6 below.
6. After completing the initial threat assessment and size-up, contact state agencies utilizing the Hazardous Materials Incident Notification line: 1-800-346-4009 (24 hours). The New Hampshire State Police Communications Supervisor will contact the appropriate state agencies (Public Health, Environmental Services, Emergency Management, Fire Marshal's Office, State Police, etc.). Provide an on-scene telephone number so that the Incident Commander can be contacted directly. State agencies are available to assist with the threat assessment and provide guidance in the handling of the incident, and assist with hazmat technician response in those areas not covered by a hazmat team.
7. Consult with your law enforcement agency to determine whether the Federal Bureau of Investigation (603-472-2224) should be notified. The FBI has jurisdiction over all terrorist incidents. The FBI may respond to the incident to supervise the investigation, including the collection and transportation of evidence.
8. Secure the package/envelope and any spilled or leaking resident (for explosives or radiological threats, see 8 below). Dry powder-like material or packaging can be carefully placed in a zipper-lock type bag, triple-bagged, and sealed. Institute law enforcement "chain of evident" custody procedures. For biological materials, after consultation with the NH Public Health laboratory, transport the material to the Public Health lab by a law enforcement agency. For nonbiological material, contact the Department of Environmental Services, Special Investigations Section, who will coordinate tracking and analysis through the DES Laboratory. Lab personnel should also be consulted concerning the quantity and size of the material that is being brought in for analysis.
9. For suspected explosive devices, contact the NH State Police Bomb Squad (1-800-852-3411). For suspected radioactive material, contact Radiological Health, NH Dept. of Health & Human Services (271-4588, after hours 1-800-346-4009).

First Responder Biological/Chemical Mail Threat Guidelines Continued

10. Decontaminate the affected area. It may be necessary for the property owner to contract with a private hazardous materials contractor to perform this function. The DES Special Investigations Section can provide guidance and assistance with disposal of materials and contaminated debris.
11. Document the incident. The incident should be documented by law enforcement and by utilizing the NH Fire Incident Reporting System (NHFIRS). All costs, including hazmat team personnel, equipment, and expendable materials should be carefully documented in the event that reimbursement becomes available.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Statewide Hazmat Hotline (NH State Police HQ):	1-800-346-4009
Public Health Laboratory:	603-271-4496 (after hours: 603-271-5300)
NH DES Special Investigations Section:	603-271-3899 (after hours: 1-800-346-4009)
Office of Emergency Management:	603-271-2231
State Fire Marshal's Office:	603-271-3294 (after hours: 1-800-852-3411)
Federal Bureau of Investigation:	603-472-2224

R. David Paulison Confirmed by U.S. Senate as U.S. Fire Administrator

Washington, November 30, 2001 — The United States Senate today voted by unanimous consent to confirm R. David Paulison of Miami as the head of the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA). Paulison, 54, was chief of the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department and past president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. USFA is part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

As the U.S. Fire Administrator, Paulison will lead a key agency supporting state and local fire service programs. The events of September 11 have increased the national focus on the nation's firefighters and Administrator Paulison will be responsible for implementing FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh's initiatives for emergency readiness, as well as firefighter training and equipment in response to terrorism.

"I am pleased that the Senate has confirmed an individual with such outstanding experience to join our FEMA team to assist the fire service," said Allbaugh. "Chief Paulison, with his long experience and extensive background in the management of fire and emergency services, will join us at a critical time in the history of the American fire service."

Paulison, who has 30 years of fire rescue service experience, has been fire chief in Miami-Dade since 1992. In the position, he oversaw 1,900 personnel with a \$200 million operating budget and a \$70 million capital budget. He also oversaw the county's emergency management office.

"I look forward to working with Director Allbaugh, the President and the Congress in addressing the needs of the fire services and the fire safety of the American public," said Paulison. "I am convinced that the American fire service is stronger than ever and we will work to increase their ability to respond to fire and emergencies that occur every day as well as respond to terrorism events."

Paulison began his career as a rescue firefighter and rose through the ranks to rescue lieutenant, battalion commander, district chief of operations, division chief, assistant chief, and then deputy director for administration before becoming chief. His emergency management experience includes Hurricane Andrew and the crash of ValuJet Flight 592.

A native of Miami, Paulison earned a Bachelor of Arts from Florida Atlantic University and completed the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Paulison was selected as fire chief of the year by Florida in 1993 and holds positions in several professional associations. He is a certified paramedic and member of the Miami-Dade Urban Search and Rescue Task Force.

The mission of the U.S. Fire Administration is to reduce life and economic losses due to fire and related emergencies through public education, training, technology and data research initiatives in coordination with other federal agencies and in partnership with fire protection and emergency service communities.

Since 1975, more than 1.4 million students have received training through a variety of courses at the National Fire Academy, a part of the USFA. Countless lives have been saved and property losses prevented as a direct result of this training and education.

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE FIREFIGHTERS

Subscriptions to the quarterly Newsletter are available to NH Firefighters at no charge simply by completing the request below.

Name: _____

S.S. # _____ D.O.B. _____ Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Fire Dept. Affiliation: Full Time Career (over \$10,000 Annually?): Yes () No ()

Primary Fire Department: _____

Rank: _____

Secondary Fire Department: _____ Rank: _____

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